

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification

Please substitute the following amended paragraph(s) and/or section(s) (deleted matter is shown by strikethrough and added matter is shown by underlining):

Page 2, Paragraph [0007]

The present invention substantially meets the aforementioned needs of the industry. By providing a suitable coating on the piston pin, the need for a solid bushing in the connecting rod pin bore is eliminated. This allows the piston pin to come into direct surface-to-surface contact with the connection rod and the piston. Preferably, the coating is chromium-nitride (Cr-Nitride or CR-N). The Cr-Nitride coating is preferably applied by physical vapor deposition (PVD). Preferably a centerless buffing operation may be performed on the coated piston pin prior to installation. Preferably, the coating thickness is between 0.0000254 mm - 0.000254 mm (1 and 10 microns) ~~1 and 10 microns~~. There are no known limitations of the type of piston that the coated piston pin may be used with. Accordingly, the coated piston pin may be used with aluminum pistons of varying strength as well as steel pistons.

Page 5, Paragraph [0026]

In the preferred embodiment, the chromium nitride coating 16 is applied to the piston pin 10 to a thickness of between 0.0000254 mm and 0.000254 mm (1 and 10 microns) ~~1 and 10 microns~~ and is preferably about 0.000127 mm (5 microns) ~~5 microns~~.